

**CLAIMS**

1. A surfactant which is obtained by blending an N-C<sub>8-24</sub> acylamino acid and an alkali salt of an amino acid.
2. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an amino acid in the alkali salt of an amino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acidic amino acids and neutral amino acids.
3. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an amino acid in the alkali salt of an amino acid is at least one member selected from α-amino acids.
4. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an amino acid in the alkali salt of an amino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of glycine, trimethylglycine, alanine, serine, proline, hydroxyproline, glutamine, glutamic acid, asparagine, aspartic acid, and glycylglycine.
5. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an amino acid in the alkali salt of an amino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of glycine, trimethylglycine, alanine, serine, glutamic acid, and glycylglycine.

6. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an alkali in the alkali salt of an amino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, triethanolamine, and N-methyltaurine sodium.

7. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein a C<sub>8-24</sub> acyl in the N-C<sub>8-24</sub> acylamino acid is a C<sub>12-18</sub> acyl.

8. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein a C<sub>8-24</sub> acyl in the N-C<sub>8-24</sub> acylamino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of lauroyl, myristoyl, palmitoyl, stearoyl, isostearoyl, oleoyl, coconut oil acyl, palm oil acyl, palm kernel oil acyl, tallow acyl, and hydrogenated tallow acyl.

9. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an amino acid in the N-C<sub>8-24</sub> acylamino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acidic amino acids and neutral amino acids.

10. A surfactant according to claim 1, wherein an amino acid in the N-C<sub>8-24</sub> acylamino acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of glutamic acid, aspartic acid, sarcosine, alanine, glycine, β-alanine,

N-methyl- $\beta$ -alanine, and glutamine.

11. A detergent composition which comprises, as a cleansing component, a surfactant according to any of claims 1 to 10.

12. A detergent composition according to claim 11, wherein the surfactant content is 3 to 50% by weight.

13. An emulsion composition which comprises, as an emulsifying component, a surfactant according to any of claims 1 to 10.

14. An emulsion composition according to claim 13, wherein the surfactant content is 0.1 to 5% by weight.